

WHAT RECORDS ARE IN THE COLLECTION?

Alpine County's Archives include a wide variety of fascinating records, some dating back to 1864 (when the County was formed). Some records that researchers often request include:

- Assessment Rolls (real and personal property)
- Great Registers of Voters
- Naturalization records
- Board of Supervisors minutes
- Grand Jury reports
- Court records (civil and criminal cases)
- Wills, Deeds, Homesteads, Mortgages
- Mining records
- Death and burial permits
- Water rights records
- Maps and blueprints

Old newspapers (some on microfilm) include:

Monitor Gazette and Argus
Alpine Beacon
Alpine Enterprise
Cub Reporter (Bear Valley)



Assessor and Clerk's records

ABOUT THE ARCHIVES



The Archives collection consists of leather-bound ledgers, maps, paper documents and other records dating from 1864 to the present. The collection has been catalogued into a comprehensive database thanks to the financial support of the Alpine County Board of Supervisors and with the support of County Clerk/Records Manager Barbara Howard.

A volunteer Historical Records Commission meets quarterly and oversees Archives activities to ensure the permanent retention, protection, and public access to the county's documentary heritage. The commission also advocates for the preservation of current historical records that document the history of Alpine County governance and development.

In 2014 the Archives was moved from the Library into its own renovated building next door, thanks to support and funding from the Board of Supervisors and the citizens of Alpine County.

Alpine County Archives



**270 Laramie Street
Markleeville, CA 96120
530-694-2120**

HISTORY

The Alpine County Archives was created in 1986-1987 with the help of a grant from the National Archives.

These historic volumes and documents, dating from 1864, had been stored in the Courthouse basement and other places, including some in various local homes.

The grant paid to hire a professional Archivist, Dr. Inez Prinster. Dr. Prinster and her assistant, Mary Wood, spent about one year carefully collecting, carrying out needed preservation work, and organizing the collection for placement in the Alpine County Library building.



L to R: County Clerk Karen Keebaugh, Historical Records Commission Chairman Nancy Thornburg, Mary Wood, Librarian Dianne Deadrich-Rogers, Dr. Inez Prinster
September 1987

"These records are created in connection with the day-to-day functions of public offices, but many of them . . . have value for purposes for which they were never intended. . . . Records of local government constitute America's cupboard of unspoiled goodies . . . the richness of which is concealed by their classification as simply 'old records'.

These hundreds of millions of documents have suffered in varying degrees - from natural deterioration, from the elements, from vermin, from theft, from human neglect or deliberate destruction - but those that remain in the county courthouses and city, town, and village halls of the nation conceal the unwritten and unknown history of America."

Reprinted from "Local Government Records: An Introduction to their Management, Preservation and use" by H.G. Jones

We who have been involved in the creation of these Archives are deeply grateful to the people of Alpine County who took it upon themselves to preserve and protect these records until appropriate care and housing could be found. It is because of them that most of this historical collection is intact.

RESEARCH

To protect the collection, there are some strict rules. Copies of these rules are available from Library/Archives staff.

- The records storage area is closed to the public.
- Staff can do limited research if patron is unable to visit the Archives. Call, write or email research request providing as much information as possible.
- For on-site research please call, write or email for an appointment.
- Please be prepared to describe your information needs as clearly as possible: names, dates, locations, and types of information sought.
- Use of digital cameras to copy material is permitted.
- Some material can be copied or scanned on the copy machine for a small fee. Large books and fragile material cannot be copied on the copy machine but can possibly be scanned with our hand scanner.
- The Archives now has an excellent microfilm reader/printer/scanner.

For more information:

Call: 530-694-2120

Write: Alpine County Library & Archives

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Email: library@alpinecountyca.gov